California State Assembly



Informational Hearing Agenda

Assembly Budget Subcommittee No. 2 on Human Services

Assemblymember Dr. Corey Jackson, Chair

Wednesday, April 30, 2025 1:30 P.M. – State Capitol, Room 444

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0530 California Health and Human Services Agency (CalHHS)

Issue 1: Facilitating Automatic Enrollment in Public Benefit Programs

- Ryan Gillette, Chief Data Officer, California Department of Social Services
- Yingjia Huang, Deputy Director, Health Care Benefits and Eligibility (HCBE), Department of Health Care Services
- Brandon Hansard, Deputy Director, Benefit and Enrollment Technology Support, Office of Technology and Systems Integration
- Aanam Khan, Principal Program Budget Analyst, Department of Finance
- Brian Metzker, Principal Fiscal and Policy Analyst, Legislative Analyst's Office

0530 California Health and Human Services Agency (CalHHS) 5180 California Department of Social Services (CDSS)

Issue 2: Revisiting Issues of Interest to the Chair

- Debra Cooper, Assistant Secretary, California Health and Human Services Agency
- Jennifer Troia, Director, California Department of Social Services
- Angie Schwartz, Deputy Director, Children and Family Services Division, California Department of Social Services
- Jennifer Ramirez, Finance Budget Analyst, Department of Finance
- Shelina Noorali, Principal Program Budget Analyst, Department of Finance
- Aanam Khan, Principal Program Budget Analyst, Department of Finance
- Angela Short, Principal Fiscal and Policy Analyst and Karina Hendren, Fiscal and Policy Analyst, Legislative Analyst's Office

4700 Department of Community Services and Development (CSD)

Issue 3: Disaster Response and Impact of Los Angeles Fires

- Jason Wimbley, Director, Department of Community Services and Development
- Kayla Knott, Finance Budget Analyst, Department of Finance
- Angela Short, Principal Fiscal and Policy Analyst, Legislative Analyst's Office

Issue 4: Review of Federal Threats and Possible Impacts

- Jason Wimbley, Director, Department of Community Services and Development
- Kayla Knott, Finance Budget Analyst, Department of Finance
- Angela Short, Principal Fiscal and Policy Analyst, Legislative Analyst's Office

Public Comment will be taken (in person only) after the completion of all panels and discussion, and this Public Comment will be for <u>all issues</u> covered in the hearing, including issues in the Non-Presentation part of the agenda (under Issue 5).

Thank you.

Items To Be Heard

0530 California Health and Human Services Agency (CalHHS)

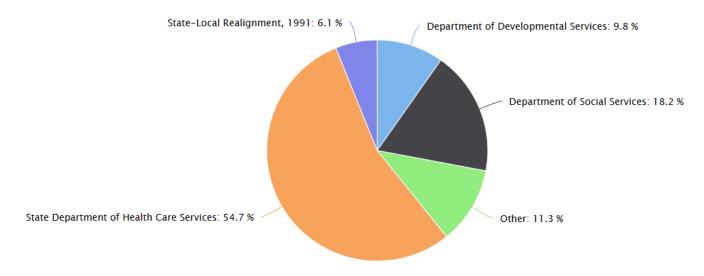
Issue 1: Facilitating Automatic Enrollment in Public Benefit Programs

Issues for Subcommittee Consideration. The Subcommittee's interest is in understanding what steps need to be taken in order to advance more streamlined, automatic enrollment into health and human services programs for individuals or families who are known to be eligible.

Background and Vision of Person-Centered Services. Health and human services programs provide a wide range of services in the areas of health care, behavioral health, public health, income assistance, social services, workforce development, child care, and assistance to people with disabilities. These services are provided to California's residents, including vulnerable and at-risk children and adults, in ways that promote health and well-being, strengthen and preserve families, and foster independence. The California Health and Human Services Agency (CalHHS) is the umbrella agency over the departments and agencies listed in the funding chart below as proposed in the Governor's Budget for 2025-26 (dollars are in thousands).

Code	□ Departments	Positions		
0530	Health, Human Services Agency, Secy	554.5	\$257,315	\$1,176,848
4100	State Council-Developmental Disabilities	81.0	\$-	\$15,230
4120	Emergency Medical Services Authority	121.0	\$33,863	\$54,656
4140	Dept Health Care Access and Information	824.7	\$376,914	\$580,972
4150	Department of Managed Health Care	807.0	\$185,668	\$185,668
4170	California Department of Aging	268.6	\$169,929	\$404,387
4180	Commission on Aging	5.0	\$52	\$1,049
4185	California Senior Legislature	1.0	\$324	\$449
4250	Children and Families Commission	-	\$342,363	\$342,363
4260	State Department of Health Care Services	4,821.5	\$69,662,616	\$193,383,644
4265	Department of Public Health	5,210.4	\$1,940,459	\$5,082,259
4300	Department of Developmental Services	2,620.7	\$12,449,532	\$19,042,906
4440	Department of State Hospitals	13,484.3	\$3,195,407	\$3,411,298
4560	Behavioral Hith Svcs Ovrst Acntbity Comm	59.0	\$48,777	\$48,777
4700	Community Services and Development	124.9	\$1,057	\$350,558
4800	California Health Benefit Exchange	1,419.0	\$187,350	\$629,359
5160	Department of Rehabilitation	1,883.0	\$90,268	\$582,568
5170	State Independent Living Council	3.0	\$-	\$746
5175	Department of Child Support Services	699.2	\$373,710	\$1,190,147
5180	Department of Social Services	5,717.4	\$23,157,398	\$53,871,686
5195	State-Local Realignment, 1991	-	\$7,770,591	\$7,770,591
5196	State-Local Realignment, 2011	-	\$6,938,586	\$6,938,586
5206	General Obligation Bonds-HHS	-	\$190,590	\$190,590
Totals, Positions	and Expenditures	38,705.2	\$127,372,769	\$295,255,337

This pie chart represents \$127.4 billion of expenditures within this Agency area. These amounts do not include federal funds, certain non-governmental cost funds, or reimbursements.



The CalHHS Guiding Principles from the <u>Agency's website</u> include the following:



FOCUS ON EQUITY

We must be a leader in the fight for equity and strive to create programs that address persistent and systemic inequities. The COVID-19 pandemic showed us how so many people are far behind and that the distance to make up to achieve equity is driven by historical, deep seated structural factors of racism, sexism and other forms of discrimination. In order to create a state where all of us can have a chance to thrive based on our efforts and hard work, we cannot allow certain groups and individuals to be disadvantaged because of the color of their skin, gender identity, sexual orientation, age or disability. We will seek to lift all boats, but some boats need to be lifted more.



ACTIVELY LISTEN

We must be better and more active listeners. This will require us to take a step back and proactively listen to the individuals and communities we are serving to better understand their conditions and the things they yearn for. As a result, we will formulate better policies, programs and services that truly meet the needs of the individuals, families and communities we serve.



USE DATA TO DRIVE ACTION

We must better leverage our data to understand the current conditions in our communities, the impact of our existing programs and the opportunities to improve service delivery. While we have built good systems to amass data, we find ourselves data rich but information poor. Actionable and timely data will help us advance social and economic mobility and improve the health and well-being of children, families and individuals.



SEE THE WHOLE PERSON

We must always think about what each person needs to thrive, always considering the cultural, economic and social factors that impact people's lives. We will integrate shared opportunities to meet individual needs across departments—both within government and across our community partners. Our focus will be on the needs of the people we serve, not on the siloed structures of government and its programs.



PUT THE PERSON BACK IN PERSON-CENTERED

We must re-engage individuals and their communities so that programs are informed and structured to meet the diverse and unique needs of each community and person. Too often, "personcentered" programs stopped being about people and became focused on satisfying a specific funding source or administrative process. We will refocus our programs on the people being served.



CULTIVATE A CULTURE OF INNOVATION

We must courageously take new approaches to solve our most intractable problems. The relentless pursuit of innovation, applied thoughtfully, will catalyze our improvement efforts. We will also design programs and services across departments, including those outside CalHHS, in collaborative and partnership.



DELIVER ON OUTCOMES

We must ensure that the delivery of our programs and services yield concrete and meaningful results. We will focus our attention and energy on work which will directly improve the lives of all Californians. We will continuously evaluate and adapt our programs to better address our clients' unmet needs while furthering our goal of delivering positive outcomes.

Questions for the Panel:

- What are the specific efforts at CalHHS to see the whole person and create a personcentered approach when it comes to enrollment into programs providing basic services and supports for underserved and vulnerable people?
- Are there specific efforts to link access to particular programs which have overlap in eligible populations? How far along are we in realizing more of a "No Wrong Door" type of approach here and how much further do we need to go?
- ♦ Does the state currently cross-check to understand what families or individuals are receiving Medi-Cal, but are not on and are eligible for CalWORKs and CalFresh?
- ♦ Similarly, what families are receiving CalFresh and are not on, but are eligible for, CalWORKs? How many individuals are flagged as housing insecure in CalFresh and are connected, or not, with housing and homelessness programs?
- What percentage of SSI recipients who are eligible for CalFresh are not receiving these food benefits?
- What are the top three things that would need to occur in budget and/or policy to make meaningful gains in this area to help more Californians meet basic needs and avoid destitution?
- Ryan Gillette, Chief Data Officer, California Department of Social Services
- Yingjia Huang, Deputy Director, Health Care Benefits and Eligibility (HCBE), Department of Health Care Services
- Brandon Hansard, Deputy Director, Benefit and Enrollment Technology Support, Office of Technology and Systems Integration
- Aanam Khan, Principal Program Budget Analyst, Department of Finance
- Brian Metzker, Principal Fiscal and Policy Analyst, Legislative Analyst's Office

Staff Comments

The Chair has asked for this issue to be included in an effort to continue the conversation about realizing person-centered services across programs that impact the stability and general welfare of the most vulnerable people in our state. This general approach seems to be a mutual goal between the Administration and the Legislature to enable improved access to needed services and supports and reduce unnecessary, and potentially harmful, administrative barriers and red tape.

0530 California Health and Human Services Agency (CalHHS) 5180 California Department of Social Services (CDSS)

Issue 2: Revisiting Issues of Interest to the Chair

Issues for Subcommittee Consideration. The Subcommittee's interest is in revisiting issues that were discussed in prior hearings and hear if there is evolved thinking, additional feedback, or questions that can inform the continuing dialogue on these proposals.

Background. The list of issues below states the date on which the issue was heard and includes a short summary of each of the proposals. Prior agendas for Subcommittee No. 2 are available here.

- 1. CalHHS: Proposal to Establish a Foster Care Multiagency Office. This issue was heard by the Subcommittee at its March 12, 2025 hearing. The proposal is to establish a Foster Care Multiagency Office within the California Health and Human Services Agency (CalHHS) to improve foster care placement, stability, and access to comprehensive services.
- 2. CalHHS: Restoring Funding for the Employment First Office. This issue was heard by the Subcommittee at its March 26, 2025 hearing. The Employment First Office was created in state law within the California Health and Human Services Agency as part of the 2023 Budget with a \$1 million General Fund appropriation. The Administration removed the \$1 million as part of its administrative reductions in 2024-25 and the aim is to restore this funding to enable the work of the Office pursuant to current law.
- 3. CDSS: Proposal to Provide Additional Data on Food Insecurity and Reporting to the Legislature. This issue was heard by the Subcommittee at its February 26, 2025 hearing. The proposal is to require the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) to provide additional criteria to their ongoing requirement of observing data trends to reduce food insecurity. In addition to adding criteria, the Chair is requesting that these findings be provided to the Legislature.
- 4. CDSS: Proposal to Change Mandated Reporting. This issue was heard by the Subcommittee at its March 12, 2025 hearing. This proposal aims to reform California's mandated reporting system by establishing an alternative response approach for reporting general neglect cases and would require county welfare agencies to use community-based services instead of traditional investigations in such cases.
- 5. **CDSS:** Proposal to Expand Guaranteed Income. This issue was heard by the Subcommittee at its February 26, 2025 hearing. This proposal seeks additional General Fund to sustain and expand funding for California's guaranteed income programs.

Questions for the Panel:

- For each issue, what feedback, updated technical assistance, and current questions does the Administration have?
- ♦ For each proposal, what is the current cost estimate from the Administration, on a technical assistance basis?
- Debra Cooper, Assistant Secretary, California Health and Human Services Agency
- Jennifer Troia, Director, California Department of Social Services
- Angie Schwartz, Deputy Director, Children and Family Services Division, California Department of Social Services
- Jennifer Ramirez, Finance Budget Analyst, Department of Finance
- Shelina Noorali, Principal Program Budget Analyst, Department of Finance
- Aanam Khan, Principal Program Budget Analyst, Department of Finance
- Angela Short, Principal Fiscal and Policy Analyst and Karina Hendren, Fiscal and Policy Analyst, Legislative Analyst's Office

Staff Comments

The Chair has asked for these issues to be revisited to continue the dialogue on these proposals and hear any updates on technical assistance or considerations that have not yet been shared.

4700 Department of Community Services and Development (CSD)

Issue 3: Disaster Response and Impact of Los Angeles Fires

Issues for Subcommittee Consideration. The Subcommittee's interest is in hearing from the Department of Community Services and Development (CSD) about the outcomes under its purview associated with the programs and services that were impacted by the fires in Los Angeles in January 2025. The Subcommittee is also interested in learning about emergency and disaster response more generally for CSD.

CSD's Budget and Background. The Governor's budget proposes \$350.6 million (\$1 million General Fund) for CSD. CSD is a federally funded department, with the vast majority of CSD's budget supported by federal funds (\$343.9 million) and federal reimbursements (\$5.6 million). Additional detail on the CSD budget is included in the chart on the next page.

CSD is responsible for administration of federal energy assistance programs for low-income households. The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) provides financial assistance to eligible low-income households to offset the costs of heating and/or cooling residential dwellings, assistance for weather-related or energy-related emergencies, and weatherization services to improve the energy efficiency of low-income residential dwellings. The Low-Income Weatherization Program (LIWP) provides energy efficiency and renewable energy services in low-income single-family farmworker and multi-family dwellings to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and lower energy costs. LIWP projects include energy efficient weatherization and solar photovoltaic system installations.

CSD also is the administrative entity for the federal Community Services Block Grant (CSBG), which enables local government and nonprofit community organizations to support low-income families to achieve and maintain economic security through activities such as education, employment services, emergency services, housing, income support and management, and health and nutritional services, among other services.

The Governor's proposed 2025-26 budget includes two budget change proposals for CSD, which are summarized below and discussed in more depth under Issue 5 of this agenda.

- 1. **Proposition 4: LIWP Farmworker Housing Component.** CSD proposes \$200,000 Proposition 4 Funds in 2026-27, and \$10 million ongoing Proposition 4 Funds, to support the LIWP Farmworker Housing Component. This component represents CSD's portion of the \$10 billion Proposition 4 spending plan.
- 2. **LGBTQ Disparities Reduction Act (AB 1163) Augmentation.** CSD requests an augmentation of \$1.06 million General Fund to implement statewide data collection system changes to comply with AB 1163 (Luz Rivas, Chapter 832, Statutes of 2023).

Department of Community Services and Development Budget Overview

FUNDING (in Thousands)	2024-25		2025-26		Difference	
Energy Programs						
General Fund (Low-Income Weatherization Prog.)	\$	1,480	\$	-	\$	(1,480)
Federal Trust Fund (Various)	\$	272,358	\$	272,350	\$	(8)
Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Prog.		258,295		258,399		
Dept. of Energy - Weatherization Assistance Prog.		14,063		13,951		
Reimbursements (Low-Income Weatherization Prog.)	\$	50	\$	50	\$	-
Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (Low-Income Weatherization Prog.)	\$	3,015	\$	-	\$	(3,015)
California Emergency Relief Fund (California Arrearage Payment Prog.)	\$	1,352	\$	-	\$	(1,352)
Energy Totals, All Funds	\$	278,255	\$	272,400	\$	(5,855)
Community Services Programs						
General Fund (Various)	\$	1,044	\$	1,057	\$	13
Legislative Priorities		101		-		
AB 1163		943		1,057		
Federal Trust Fund (Community Services Block Grant)	\$	71,459	\$	71,551	\$	92
Reimbursements (California Earned Income Tax Credit)	\$	12,700	\$	5,550	\$	(7,150)
Community Service Totals, All Funds	\$	85,203	\$	78,158	\$	(7,045)
FUNDING (in Thousands)		2024-25		2025-26	Di	ifference
General Fund	\$	2,524	\$	1,057	Ś	(1,467)
Federal Trust Fund	7	343,817	Ţ	343,901	٧	84
Reimbursements		12,750		5,600		(7,150)
Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund		3,015		-		(3,015)
California Emergency Relief Fund		1,352		_		(1,352)
Totals, All Funds	\$	363,458	\$	350,558	\$	(12,900)
SITIONS		2024-25	:	2025-26	Di	ifference
Energy Programs		93.2		93.2		-
Community Services		31.7		31.7		
Total Positions		124.9		124.9		-

Los Angeles Fires Response from CSD. CSD's Los Angeles-based Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) and Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) agencies responded to immediate needs that emerged from the Palisades and Eaton fires by providing a range of support to community members. Because these programs have the flexibility to adapt to local priorities during emergencies and natural disasters, agencies have the ability to tailor services and activities based on new and emerging needs.

In this instance, local CSBG and LIHEAP agencies provided services that included distributing food, essential supplies, housing vouchers, and providing transportation services. Local agencies reported an increase in demand for assistance as the fires impacted Los Angeles County. As many low-income households in Los Angeles and surrounding areas experience direct and indirect impacts from the fires, CSD's local partners continue to support the needs of low-income households in their communities through a variety of services and activities.

Questions for the Panel:

- Please share with the Subcommittee how CSD has responded to the needs of individuals impacted by the Los Angeles fires and how CSD is assisting in recovery efforts.
- What role does CSD have in assisting communities, families, and individuals as we enter the summer season and begin to experience extreme heat?
- Jason Wimbley, Director, Department of Community Services and Development
- Kayla Knott, Finance Budget Analyst, Department of Finance
- Angela Short, Principal Fiscal and Policy Analyst, Legislative Analyst's Office

Staff Comments

The Chair has asked for this issue to be included for every department within the purview of Subcommittee No. 2 with the intention of understanding the impacts and recovery from the recent Los Angeles fires, as well as to understand what role the state has in emergencies and disaster response.

Issue 4: Review of Federal Threats and Possible Impacts

Issues for Subcommittee Consideration. The Subcommittee's interest is in hearing from the Department of Community Services and Development (CSD) about emerging policies and proposals from the federal government that may impact vulnerable communities receiving supports and services from community providers today.

CSD and Federal Actions. CSD continues to receive funding and reimbursements for federal programs. Congress passed a continuing resolution on March 14, 2025 that funds the federal government through September 2025. As of April 1, 2025, CSD is awaiting details of any additional grant awards for its federal programs in the 2025 federal fiscal year.

As of April 15, 2025, California has received \$215,756,159 in LIHEAP funding. This funding was appropriated by Congress in September 2024 under a partial year continuing resolution. The amount appropriated for LIHEAP under the continuing resolution was equal to about 90 percent of what was appropriated to LIHEAP in federal fiscal year 2024.

For the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG), California has received \$33,847,608 in CSBG funding as of April 15, 2025 for federal fiscal year 2025. This funding was appropriated by Congress in two partial year continuing resolutions passed in September and December 2024. The amount appropriated for CSBG under these two continuing resolutions was equal to about 50 percent of what was appropriated for CSBG in federal fiscal year 2024.

CSD is awaiting details of additional CSBG grant awards for 2025. When Congress passes a continuing resolution, 90 percent of LIHEAP funds are typically allocated to grantees based on the prior year appropriation amount, with the remaining 10 percent of funding allocated once a final budget is passed. The Office of Community Services (OCS), Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services determine the amount of funds to be allocated to LIHEAP grant recipients and make funds available.

The federal government recently laid off the entire LIHEAP division under the federal Office of Community Services (OCS) under the Administration for Children and Families (ACF).

According to CSD, there are two LIHEAP items that will require submission in 2025 that are typically reviewed and approved by OCS. The first item is the 2025 LIHEAP Weatherization Waiver Request. CSD is required under state law to request a waiver to use up to 25 percent of LIHEAP funds for residential weatherization services. The waiver gives LIHEAP grantees the ability to increase the maximum funding allowance for weatherization from 15 percent to 25 percent of the total grant award. CSD is scheduled to submit its 2025 Weatherization Waiver Request after the conclusion of the public comment period on the waiver, which is April 17, 2025.

The second item that will require federal submission is the 2026 LIHEAP State Plan. LIHEAP grantees must submit an annual application for funding, the LIHEAP State Plan, by early September, covering a grant period of October 1 through September 30. Federal approval of the state plan is a condition for receiving LIHEAP funds.

Questions for the Panel:

- Please share your thoughts and concerns about the possible negative impact of policies and budget proposals being contemplated at the federal level that could significantly impact CSD's current capacity.
- What is the status of CSD's federal funds given the move to eliminate the LIHEAP division and Office of Community Services under the federal administration?
- Jason Wimbley, Director, Department of Community Services and Development
- Kayla Knott, Finance Budget Analyst, Department of Finance
- Angela Short, Principal Fiscal and Policy Analyst, Legislative Analyst's Office

Staff Comments

The Chair has asked for this issue to be included for every department within the purview of Subcommittee No. 2 with the intention of understanding what is being contemplated at the federal level and possible consequences for the California's population and the programs on which people rely.

Non-Presentation Items

The following proposals do not require a formal presentation from the Administration, as issues are not being raised about them for discussion as of this writing. Members of the Subcommittee may ask questions, make comments, or request a presentation by the Administration on these proposals, at the discretion of the Subcommittee Chair. Members of the public can provide public comment on these items during the Public Comment period, after discussion on the issues to be heard has concluded.

0530 California Health and Human Services Agency (CalHHS) 4700 Department of Community Services and Development (CSD)

Issue 5: Related Governor's Budget Change Proposals (BCPs)

A description of each of these proposals in the Governor's Budget is included below. For more detailed information please see the Department of Finance's website here.

CalHHS BCP: Electronic Benefit Transfer Project – SUN Bucks Automation and Cost-Per-Case-Month. The California Health and Human Services Agency, Office of Technology and Solutions Integration requests an increase in expenditure authority of \$86,380,000 California Health and Human Services Automation Fund for the operation and administrative costs associated with the federal SUN Bucks Program.

The permanent federal SUN Bucks program provides food benefits to eligible school aged children while school is out of session. OTSI is requesting an increase in expenditure authority of \$86,380,000 for administrative and operating expenses to support this program which provides approximately 5.2 million children with food benefits so that families with low incomes have adequate nutrition while school is out for the summer. Each child will receive \$120, helping reduce food insecurity and making nutrition more reliably available to families and kids who needs support.

Funding for the administrative and operating expenses for SUN Bucks has already been included as part of the local assistance request within the California Department of Social Services' (CDSS) budget. This request only seeks the establishment of the corresponding expenditure authority for OTSI, which manages the EBT project on behalf of CDSS.

CalHHS BCP: Information Technology Enhancement Resource Shift to CalHHS. The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) requests to shift \$381,000 General Fund to the California Health and Human Services Agency (CalHHS) Office of Technology and Solutions Integration (OTSI) in 2025-26 and ongoing in lieu of continuing an Interagency Agreement (IAA) for two positions that work on IT Capital planning, prioritization, and IT enterprise portfolio management. These positions were established through the Information Technology, Data Science, and Informatics Framework for a 21st Century Public Health System Budget Change Proposal (BCP). This request is to shift the previously authorized work from DPH to OTSI.

The CDPH Center for Health Statistics and Informatics (CHSI) received 33 authorized positions and \$20.1 million General Fund in 2022-23 and \$18.1 million in 2023-24 in ongoing through the aforementioned BCP. Two of the authorized positions, one Information Technology Specialist II (ITS II) and one Information Technology Specialist II (ITS II), were intended for the California Health and Human Services Agency's (CalHHS), Office of the Agency Information Officer (OAIO). The ITS I and ITS II are integral for CalHHS IT Capital planning, prioritization, and IT enterprise portfolio management. The position authority was permanently transferred to OTSI and funding has been provided by CDPH via an Interagency Agreement (IAA) to support the positions. The current IAA ends June 30, 2025, and CDPH requests to permanently transfer funding for the two authorized positions to CalHHS.

CSD BCP: Proposition 4: LIWP Farmworker Housing Component. The Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024 (Proposition 4 or the Climate Bond), approved by voters in November 2024, authorizes \$10 billion to protect communities and nature from the impacts of climate change, such as drought, flooding, wildfire, extreme heat, and sea level rise; to reduce or remove carbon pollution where possible; and in some cases address existing environmental challenges exacerbated by climate change. The Administration proposes \$2.7 billion in Climate Bond funds in 2025-26. This item only pertains to the \$10 million in Proposition 4 funds proposed under CSD. Proposition 4, the Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024, provides \$10 million to support the Low-Income Weatherization Program (LIWP) Farmworker Housing Component. The full Proposition 4 spending proposal is covered by Subcommittee No. 4 on Climate Crisis, Resources, Energy, and Transportation.

CSD administers the LIWP, which provides low-income households with solar photovoltaic systems and energy efficiency upgrades at no cost to residents. The program reduces greenhouse gas emissions and household energy costs by saving energy and generating clean renewable power. The energy efficiency improvements, funded by LIWP, reduce energy costs and provide a long-term solution for low-income households that might struggle to afford heating and cooling their home. There are currently two LIWP program components in operation, the LIWP Multifamily Component and the LIWP Farmworker Housing Component.

The LIWP Farmworker Housing Component has been in operation since 2017 and targets vulnerable farmworker households across 18 counties with high farmworker populations. Low-income farmworkers pay a large share of their income on energy expenses and often cut back on other critical needs to pay their energy bills. The energy efficiency upgrades and solar systems funded by the Farmworker Housing Component reduce energy bills, provide access to cost-saving, clean renewable energy, and improve the health and safety of residences owned or rented by farmworkers. The energy efficiency upgrades can include central heating and cooling, appliances (refrigerators, freezer, washers, and dryers), window replacements, insulation, water heaters, lighting, and rooftop solar systems, among other measures.

The Farmworker Housing Component currently operates in the following counties: Fresno, Imperial, Kern, Kings, Madera, Merced, Monterey, Napa, Riverside, San Diego, San Joaquin, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Santa Cruz, Sonoma, Stanislaus, Tulare, and Ventura.

LIWP Farmworker Housing Component (Dollars in Millions) Resource History (as of February 2025)

Program Budget	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund	\$6.7	\$5.1	-	-	-	\$15	-	-
General Fund	-	-	-	-	\$25	-	-	-
Balance	-	-	-	-	\$8.4	\$12. 8		

The LIWP Farmworker Housing Component is currently administered by La Cooperativa Campesina de California. Since 2019, over 1,500 farmworker households have received services under the LIWP Farmworker Housing Component.

Proposition 4 dedicates \$10 million to the LIWP Farmworker Housing Component. CSD plans on conducting procurement activities to identify an administrator for this allocation for the LIWP Farmworker Housing Component in 2026-27, with project awards and service delivery scheduled to begin in 2027-28. This procurement includes adequate timing to allow for the stakeholder engagement process, program evaluation (once the current program cycle concludes), and to vet any modifications or improvements to the program design.

CSD BCP: LGBTQ Disparities Reduction Act (AB 1163) Augmentation. CSD requests an augmentation of \$1,057,000 General Fund to implement statewide data collection system changes to comply with AB 1163 (Luz Rivas), Chapter 832, Statutes of 2023, which requires CSD to collect voluntary self-identification information pertaining to sexual orientation, gender identity, and intersexuality while collecting demographic data from applicants applying for services funded by the federal Community Services Block Grant (CSBG). According to CSD, in order to collect these new data elements, CSD must make modifications to its third-party data collection system and the intake systems of the 60 local CSBG sub-grantees.

The 2024 Budget Act appropriated \$943,000 General Fund one-time for local CSBG agencies to comply with AB 1163. Based on further analysis of surveys completed by CSBG agencies, CSD has determined that the total cost of compliance with AB 1163 is \$2 million. As such, CSD requests an additional \$1.057 million General Fund one-time to complete necessary system modifications. According to CSD, with the requested funding, CSD will be able to update its current data systems and the data systems of CSBG sub-grantees to facilitate the collection of self-identification information pertaining to sexual orientation, gender identity, and intersexuality demographic data pursuant to AB 1163.

Staff Comments

Staff is not aware of issues being raised with these BCPs as of this writing.

Staff Recommendation: Hold open.

This agenda and other publications are available on the Assembly Budget Committee's website at: <u>Sub 2 Hearing Agendas | California State Assembly</u>. You may contact the Committee at (916) 319-2099. This agenda was prepared by Nicole Vazquez.